

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 382 is presently pending on Select File. It is a bill for an act relating to laetrile. Read title. It was introduced by Senator Venditte last January 17. It was referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee for public hearing. There were several amendments that were adopted on General File. The bill was advanced from General File in April of last year. It was placed on Select File. On May 7, 1979, the E & R amendments were adopted by the body. I have several amendments pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Day four, Mr. Speaker, round three. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I think it would be most appropriate at this time to try to put into perspective some of the things that have happened since sometime last spring relative to LB 382. There have been a lot of amendments. There has been a lot of tampering with this bill. There probably has been more done to this legislation than any legislation that I have been a part of in this Legislature and I certainly am not going to criticize the efforts of those antilaetrile legislators here on the floor of the Legislature this afternoon. I think we have done enough of that. I think what we really, truly need to do this afternoon is to try to understand, try to understand the issue that is before us here this afternoon and the best way we can do that is to understand the legislation that has been written regarding LB 382. I think for the most part it will be very difficult to understand if you go through the bill book and look at all the amendments and try to put things into perspective from that regard. I have broken this bill down by section and I think it is a very simple, it really is a very simple piece of legislation to understand. Now whether you agree, ladies and gentlemen, that is something else but this is basically what LB 382 says and this is what it is all about. Section 1 of the bill just simply has to do with defining..it has to do with definitions. It defines who the Department of Health is and it defines who a physician is. Okay, Section 2, it states that we, the Legislature, that we, the Legislature, do not endorse, we do not endorse laetrile as an effective cure for cancer and I don't think any of us in here would be willing to say that chemotherapy is an effective cure for cancer but basically this is what Section 2 says. Section 3, it states that it is now lawful, with the passage of this bill, it would then be lawful to sell laetrile for prescription or administration by licensed and only by licensed physicians in this state. Okay, Section 4, what Section 4 states is this. It states that the treatment of